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Art Unit 372/8

PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ation of Jeffrey S. Brooks

AUG 1 5 2001 &

Serial No. 09/855,890 Filed May 15, 2001 Entitled Footwear

Examiner

August 13, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT B

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, SIR:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Prior to substantive examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please replace claim 1 with the following:

Footwear comprising a sole having:

a heel section for supporting a heel of the foot, said heel section having medial and lateral regions, at least a portion of the lateral region of the heel section having an overall thickness corresponding to a full thickness of the sole in said portion of the lateral region of the heel section and providing a first compressive resilience for attenuating the shock of impact to the wearer during running and walking;

(b) an arch section forward of the heel section for supporting an arch of the foot, said arch section having medial and lateral regions, and at least a portion of the medial region of the arch section having an\overall thickness corresponding to a full thickness of the sole in said portion of the medial region of the arch section and providing (a second compressive resilience harder than said first compressive resilience for providing firm support for the foot during running and walking; and

(c) a forefoot section forward of the arch section for supporting a ball of the foot including first, second, third, fourth and fifth metatarsal heads and associated metatarsal necks, proximal phalanges and metatars al phalangeal joints, said forefoot